

WYOMING STATE FAIR

Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Chair Tammy Barkhurst called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Advisory members present: Tammy Barkhurst, Jim Schiermiester, Dudley Booth, Howard Gernant, Ron Pulse, Johnathan Despain, Bryce Reece, Criss Crozier, WSF Director Barney Cosner, WSF Asst. Director Vicki Rupert, WDA Deputy Director Jim Schwartz.

Guests: Julie Cook, Dept of Agriculture; Bob Chabot of Riverton and Kendall Bauman of Cheyenne.

Director Cosner presented information on general updates:

All Rodeo: Up for bid for 2006, may look at having the PRCA rodeo producer put on whole event from selling to taking of tickets, etc. Women's Rodeo will probably be cancelled, Cindy Gruwell not interested in putting it on any longer. Will need to look at the overall rodeo schedule and also will put Ranch rodeo out for bid.

Discussion: Bryce Reece commented rodeo is over done; Barney noted that there is a lot of local support for steer roping but need to look for an event that will draw with paid attendance; Criss Crozier asked what is happening with the age limit for locals in the rodeo, Barney will be working with the Attorney General's office to get state statue wording to be changed/modified to benefit all state fair rodeos.

WDA principal accountant Julie Cook gave a preliminary report for the 2005 WSF by stating paid admission for 2005 had an increase of 750. Not all bills are in at this time; will have a final report later in the year when she has all the paperwork and bill turned in. For 2005 contractual pricing went up, so expenses will be higher in most areas, she also will separate out emergency (temporary use) bills from actual state fair billing, such as tents and temporary electrical power.

Ron Pulse addressed the board with concern of FFA advisors and their show committee assignments to help superintendents. Reported that superintendents do not make initial contact with advisors, also advisors not recognized for their contributions/help during fair time. Johnathan Despain volunteered to help train show committee members and superintendents to work together and have better communication. Bryce Reece suggested having a letter with a list of show committee sent to superintendents in January. Ron Pulse suggested having a special recognition for agents/advisors. Bryce Reece suggested that the outstanding agent/advisor win the use of a golf cart for the week. Barney Cosner commented that the Appreciation Dinner needs to be reworked, with all the shows going on in the evening it seems breakfast is the best time to hold an event to recognize exhibitors at State Fair. Bryce Reese stated that we need to find something to tie into with the breakfast. Ron Pulse said State Fair needs to be user friendly for agents/advisors to get quality end results, maybe consider giving each agent/advisor a special cap.

Cafeteria Menu: had comments both good/bad, positives far outweigh the bad. Barney Cosner noted that the menu is always being worked, reviewed and revised for the benefit of the clientele.

Animal Health: Recommended to have Barney check with Dr. Oldham to see of the possibility for 24 hour check-in, if not will keep same hours as 2005 fair with more, ease of access to WLB personnel.

Legislative Charity Show: Keep it or eliminate? The concern is that the legislators that are participating are not the ones that need to be educated/made aware of the State Fairs programs. It is very difficult to get

legislators involved and committed in a timely manner. Several members suggested that show be kept one more year and to consider putting up a static exhibit during session with pictures of past years and/or try another species.

Premium Book: Recommending printing open book only with junior section be web based; with 25 open books/25 complete cds per county. Bryce Reece moved to accept the proposed format with a cd disc to also be sent to every FFA advisor, seconded by Johnathan Despain, motion passed unanimously.

Open class entry deadline: Dudley Booth moved to approve July 25th as a new deadline for entry, seconded by Bryce Reece, motion carried:

Computer Program: will keep on top of to meet needs of the fair, especially for press releases and the open show entries for online entries.

Golf Cart policy: will keep as is for 2006.

Ambulance Service: Previously was an in-kind service from Converse County, however Converse County Memorial Hospital has taken over this service with a significant cost per event being charged. Barney will visit with hospital, depending on fees may need to look at other services.

Director Cosner presented the following proposed changes and/or modifications for the each department:

Creative and Home Arts:

Will rework classifications/divisions/payouts and modify the county quilt challenge. Looking at relocating some departments to different buildings to better utilize space, Needlework needs more space. In culinary SACO and Casper Star events will be eliminated due to lack of participants. Bryce Reece commented that we may try banners or more flagging to highlight this area, also maybe some indoor benches for viewers of exhibits.

Allow expanded boundaries in the home arts areas to bordering counties in South Dakota and Nebraska. Bryce Reece moved to expand boundaries for home arts, seconded by Johnathan Despain, motion passed.

Request longer building hours for viewing. Upon survey results, have had requests to have longer static exhibit hours as the last Saturday is biggest night with people coming to see exhibits, but many buildings are being closed early or being packed up. Bryce Reece moved that static exhibits can not pack up until the building is closed and not to be loaded out until 5:00 a.m. Sunday morning, seconded by Dudley Booth. Discussion: Ron Pulse stated he can't enforce the building hours now. Those in favor Johnathan, Jim, Tammy, Criss, Dudley, those opposed Ron, motion carried.

Open Livestock Shows:

Beef Cattle:

Requesting the deletion of Stars of Summer, moving/modifying some shows. Feature breed still needs to be determined. Dudley Booth asked to check into adding a class for all calves in the Pens of 5 Commercial Heifers. Also to look at adding class for composite cattle in the Junior Show.

Equine:

Vesicular stomatitis had an adverse effect on entries. Will review show schedules, especially the Equine Extravaganza, maintain Reined Cow Horse contest and Ranch Horses will feature breed for 2006. No further action taken.

Goats:

Modify classification dates and check-in times/location for dairy goats. Feature breed to be determined. Seventh year for Mountain Regional Show for Boer Goats; continue as feature breed. All goats required to have scrapie tags, highlighting this in Animal Health Requirement section is still needed. Ron Pulse requested FFA meat goat showmanship class be added for 2006. No further action taken.

Sheep:

Continue holding Sheep Lead contest in Event Tent. Supreme Ram and Ewe to receive custom belt buckles, with Wyoming Wool Growers and Bryce and Barbara Reece sponsoring these awards. Emphasize scrapie tag requirements for all sheep. Feature Breed for 2006 to be Southdown. Looking at hosting 2006 & 2007 national shows.

Other:

Deletion of Llama Show. Hay Show continues to grow in entries and quality. Review concerns on soliciting funds guidelines. Open Dog Agility competition area needed, suggestions are welcomed within the current schedule. New format used in Stock Dog Trials with cattle was a success. Criss Crozier moved to accept open class show modifications as presented, Jim Schiermiester seconded, motion carried.

Junior Shows:

Will maintain deadline entry on Sunday, several Junior Show Superintendents are requesting a 9am entry for livestock. Director Cosner asked for ideas/suggestions for new award types/designs. In the Junior Beef Heifer show Dudley Booth moved to add a Senior yearling female class, seconded by Ron Pulse, motion carried. Extensive discussion on the jackpot shows, with a suggestion to keep entry fee an even dollar amount and allow for cash entry at processing time on Tuesday.

Junior Sheep issues and recommendations, need to put in a specific rule regarding show lamb fungus and exhibitor must have a veterinary order for muzzles and/or drenching. Barney Cosner will review specific wording with regards to release of disqualified animals due to health or non-health reasons. Barney will visit with Dr. Oldham about narrowing the veterinary inspection time to within seven days before fair. Bryce will get information to Barney about a Bred-Fed-Owned show sponsored by Wyoming Wool Growers & Mountain States Lamb Coop (live show & carcass data collection would be ideal) for the Junior Lamb Show. Will also look at a similar event for market swine as requested by several agriculture science teachers.

Johnathan Despain and Ron Pulse will continue to work on a new and improved herdsmanship contest for the entire Junior Show.

4-H:

Johnathan Despain said entry deadline time was fine to leave as is for 2006. The added age division will stay the same and the intermediate age only applies to showmanship and specific contests.

FFA:

Entry deadline will stay the same. The FFA Dairy Judging contest will no longer be held during State Fair. Ron Pulse requested that State Fair check with the City of Douglas regarding swim hours for exhibitors during State Fair.

Updates:

Director Cosner discussed completed improvements to various buildings and the proposed improvements for 2006. An information packet will be put together for the committee with information about the request for Equine stalling and indoor arena being proposed for the upcoming legislative session.

Each committee member was asked to turn in committee assignment preferences for 2006.

Being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Hopkins